






NEWS from the

Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee

Senator Blanche L. Lincoln, Chairman agriculture.senate.gov

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President Obama's FY2011 Budget Proposal

Earlier today, President Obama released his budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2011. As Chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, I am opposed to cuts to programs important to agriculture and rural communities.

Throughout my Senate career, I have been a strong, independent voice for Arkansas's agricultural producers. Now, as Chair of the Senate Agriculture Committee, I am standing up for farmers and ranchers and all of rural America once again by opposing cuts that will harm the hard-working men and women who are the backbone of our rural economy.

Put simply, the President's proposal picks winners and losers. By targeting policies that rural America relies upon, this proposal places a disproportionate burden on the backs of farmers and rural communities. While I too believe we must reduce the federal deficit, we must all share in this responsibility.

In 2008, I worked hard to pass a five-year farm bill that was fiscally responsible. This bill contained over \$4 billion worth of cuts to farm programs, was completely paid for and did not contribute to the deficit. The Farm Bill is a contract with our farmers that they depend on to make business decisions. Changing the rules in the middle of the game would be detrimental to their operations and would cost us even more jobs in rural America.

I thank the President for his recommendations, but Congress writes the budget. I intend to support measures to reduce the deficit but fight many of the President's proposed cuts that will harm farmers, ranchers and rural communities.

With Arkansas Pride,



Senator Lincoln's

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